

Testimony before the Higher Education and Employment Advancement
Committee

SB.30 and Funding for Remedial Education in Community Colleges

Good evening, Senator Cassano, Rep. Willis, and all of the other members of the Higher Education and Employment Advance Committee. My name is Lisa Lerissette, a student taking a policy legislative advocacy course at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven Connecticut. I would like to thank you all for taking your time reading my testimony, and I wanted to inform that I am for SB.30.

I am very proud of the accomplishments that Governor Malloy has done while he has in office. He recently proposed a bill to recreate Connecticut's public higher education institutions. Bill 30 is An Act Concerning the Board of Regents for higher Education Infrastructure Act proposes to increase enrollments at the Connecticut State College and Universities and prepare tomorrow's workforce. It includes a one-time revenue transfer of \$60 million to create a "President's Office Operating Fund" and proposes to increase capital funding by \$60 million for IT/smart classroom technology and the creation of a system-wide master plan.

Receiving the extra funding will help students in classroom settings learn more. We realize that our school system lacks the updated technology of equipment that is needed in every classroom. Unfortunately, the new generation of children is raised in a world where they value the use of technology. By providing the school with the necessities that is needed the students will be able to learn more because it is more appealing to them.

Education is an important essential that many students should obtain. Receiving a degree from a university shows the adequate skills that an individual has in order to succeed in life. While the committee is taking the time to vote this senate bill 30 out of committee, please think about the difference that this funding would make in the school systems. Thank you again for listening to my testimony.